

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented) An ink-jet recording head comprising:

a pressure producing device for changing a pressure in a pressure chamber containing an ink;

a plate-shaped member having a front surface and a back surface, the plate-shaped member having an etched partition wall formed on the front surface, the partition wall defining the pressure chamber, an ink inlet passage and a common ink storage chamber, the plate-shaped member having an etched land formed on the back surface so as to correspond to the pressure chamber and be in contact with an extremity of the pressure producing device, the plate-shaped member having an etched elastic and deformable portion so as to surround the land, the elastic and deformable portion being capable of being elastically deformed by a deformation of the pressure producing device; and

a nozzle plate provided with a nozzle hole through which an ink particle is jetted when the pressure in the pressure chamber is changed by the deformation of the pressure producing device, the nozzle plate being disposed on a side of the front surface of the plate-shaped member,

wherein the plate-shaped member includes a first layer having the front surface, a second layer having the back surface and an intermediate layer sandwiched between the first layer and the second layer, and

wherein the partition wall is formed such that a desired portion of the first layer selectively is etched over the intermediate layer so that the first layer is penetrated, and the land is formed such that a desired portion of the second layer is etched selectively over the intermediate layer so that the second layer is penetrated.

2. (canceled).

3. (previously presented): An ink-jet recording head comprising:
a pressure producing device for changing a pressure in a pressure chamber containing an ink;

a plate-shaped member having a front surface and a back surface, the plate-shaped member having an etched partition wall formed on the front surface by a first etching process, the partition wall defining the pressure chamber, an ink inlet passage and a common ink storage chamber, the plate-shaped member having an etched land formed on the back surface that corresponds to the pressure chamber and is in contact with an extremity of the pressure producing device, the plate-shaped member having an etched elastic and deformable portion that surrounds the land, the elastic and deformable portion being capable of being elastically deformed by a deformation of the pressure producing device: and

a nozzle plate provided with a nozzle hole through which an ink particle is jetted when the pressure in the pressure chamber is changed by the deformation of the pressure producing device, the nozzle plate being disposed on a side of the front surface of the plate-shaped member,

wherein the plate-shaped member includes a first layer having the front surface, a second layer having the back surface, an intermediate layer sandwiched between the first layer and the second layer, a first adhesive layer bonding the first layer and the intermediate layer together and a second adhesive layer bonding the second layer and the intermediate layer together,

wherein the partition wall is formed such that a desired portion of the first layer is etched selectively over the first adhesive layer so that the first layer is penetrated, and the land is formed such that a desired portion of the second layer is etched selectively over the second adhesive layer so that the second layer is penetrated.

4. (previously presented): The ink-jet recording head according to claim 1, wherein the first and the second layers are formed of a stainless steel, and the intermediate layer is formed of a polymer film.

5-6. (canceled).

7. (previously presented): An ink-jet recording head according to claim 1, wherein the plate-shaped member does not have any adhesive layer between the first and the intermediate layers nor between the second and the intermediate layers.

8-53. (canceled).

54. (previously presented): The ink-jet recording head according to claim 3 wherein the first and the second layers are formed of a stainless steel, and the intermediate layer is formed of a polymer film.

55. (new) The ink-jet recording head according to claim 1, wherein the first and the second layers and the intermediate layer are formed of stainless steel.

56. (new) The ink-jet recording head according to claim 3 wherein the first and the second layers and the intermediate layer are formed of stainless steel.